

Wrecking Crews Attack City's First School Building

By JIM CRUMPACKER
Progress has a habit of overhauling some of the historic and prominent landmarks of any community and so it was last week when wrecking crews tore down the old Perry School building at 1731 Prairie Ave., just 50 years after the tattered and tarnished structure was built as the first school in what is now Torrance.

Complete with bell tower and old-fashioned straight back chairs and desks, the original Perry School is giving way to a new administration building and multi-purpose structure. The Board of Education first called for bids on the new construction on April 17 and awarded the contract on May 1 to A. H. Dohrman Co. The old school has stood empty as a testimony to the contrast of time, present and past, for about two years. Up

until that time it was used extensively for classroom work and as an auditorium. In 1954 complete modern units were constructed and surrounded the building. Perry School was named after L. J. Perry, who at one time was head of the Redondo Railway. Mrs. May Dalton, who first started teaching at Perry 34 years ago, was on hand Thurs-

day and Friday when the workmen began ripping apart the old structure. She still is a teacher at Perry, where she instructs the first grade. Mrs. Dalton took her first graders out Friday to watch the demolition of the building in which she first began her local teaching career. She taught the first and second grades when she first went to Perry. She is a graduate of Washington State Normal, in

Bellingham, Wash., and taught in Washington for four years before coming to this area in 1921. Perry School went along under its own steam until 1924 when a newly-formed Perry School District built an addition onto the old school, with now is the present administration building. The first class in the old building consisted of about 15

youngsters. Robert Teal was the teacher and at that time less than a dozen houses were located within the school's area. It was formerly a part of the Redondo High-School District. Attendance sky-rocketed upward, even in the days of World War I, until, when the present administration building was constructed in 1924 as a four classroom structure, enrollment was up to 127. The rapid rise in attendance from 1922 to 1924 served as indication of things to come for the booming Torrance area. In 1922 there were 45 students. That figure jumped to 85 in 1923. When the 1924 building addition was made, the Perry School board consisted of John Key, C. D. Suttiff, and Clifford Whistler. Present enrollment of the

school is more than 1000 with a five-year projected enrollment of 1250 serving as main reason for the new construction. John W. Strom is the principal. He heads a staff of 28 teachers at Perry, 27 more than the single instructor that taught when the school was opened in 1906 and 25 more than the three teachers who were with the school in 1924.

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

Torrance Herald

Monday

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

Phone
FA 8-4000
Published Monday and Thursday—
Entered, as second class matter Jan.
30, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, Cal-
ifornia, under Act of March 2, 1879.

42nd Year—No. 43

12

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, MAY 28, 1956

CIRCULATION OFFICE FA 8-4004

10¢ per copy 12 PAGES



OLDTIMER FALLS . . . Mrs. May Dalton and her first grade students at Perry School gaze at shell of old Perry school building, which was built in 1906. Mrs. Dalton has taught at Perry for 34 years and instructed many years in the old building. New administration building and multipurpose structure will be constructed on site.

Pact Change on Airport Sought

A recommendation that the City Council renegotiate parts of the master lease on the airport, now held by Collins-Dietrich Air Services, was voted by members of the Airport Commission here this week on the recommendation of former Commissioner Robert B. Jahn.

Specifically, the Commission voted to recommend that the Council investigate the feasibility of opening the part of the contract which restricts sale of petroleum products on the Airport to the master lease holder. The Commission recommended that the sale of petroleum products be thrown open to other distributors on the airport.

White Opposes
Chairman Jack E. White and Commissioner John Crain opposed the motion, with White saying that an engineering firm had been employed to survey the entire airport development, and that he did not want to vote on such a matter until the firm had been able to submit its recommendations.

In another action initiated by George Schneider, new member of the Commission, the City was requested to inquire into the costs of providing night lights at the airport.

Lease Discussed
A long discussion on the proposal to lease 6.9 acres of land to Air Logistics, now in Pasadena, was settled temporarily when the Commission voted to offer the easterly four acres at \$600 per acre per year on a 10-year lease basis with a 15-year renewal option; and the balance at \$150 an acre per



CHECKING COURT SITE . . . City and county officials look over the proposed site for the city's Municipal Court on the new civic center site at Torrance Blvd. near Maple Ave. Shown here are (left to right) City Manager George Stevens, Architect Kenneth Wing, Atty. Boris S. Woolley, and Supervisor Burton W. Chace. A committee spearheaded by Woolley did much to convince County officials that a court was needed here.

Franklin Flays King's Claim Of GOP Support

Blasting what he termed "an attempt to fool the voters of the 17th District," Charles A. Franklin, Republican candidate for Congress in the 17th District, last week attacked Congressman Cecil R. King's past statement as an Eisenhower supporter. Speaking before newsmen last Friday at a San Pedro luncheon, Franklin said: "Mr. King has in the past attempted to fool the voters of our District into thinking that he supports President Eisenhower for better than any Republican ever could. This is a blatant misrepresentation and two key votes by Mr. King prove it."

"In the first place, President Eisenhower has asked for a Republican Congress. If Cecil King had been a real Eisenhower supporter he would have crossed party lines and voted with the President to organize Congress. This Mr. King did not do. Rather, he cast his ballot along his own party lines, thus disregarding the wishes of President Eisenhower."

"Secondly, the recent Farm Bill proves that Mr. King was not trying to help the President, but rather was endeavoring to embarrass him politically. Even after President Eisenhower had stated that the farm measure was an impossible hodgepodge and could not receive his endorsement, Cecil King came back and voted to override the President's veto."

"If I am elected," Franklin stated, "I will give President Eisenhower the type of support he deserves. I will not just offer the President meaningless lip service but rather honest, solid backing."

NORTH AMERICAN IN ALTITUDE RESEARCH

North American Aviation and the U.S. Air Force today announced that the company is doing "research and development on a manned aircraft, the X-15, for investigation of high altitudes, speeds and temperatures."

No further information was released on the project, other than the fact that work on the new research plane is being done at North American's Los Angeles plant.

Herald Using Larger, Easier to Read Type

In keeping with a policy of making THE HERALD ever more readable and modern, most of the stories in today's edition are set in brand-new type.

THE HERALD's so-called straight matter machines have been equipped with Linotype matrices known as Corona 9-point and cast on a 10-point slug. The letter itself is larger than that formerly used on the machines and there is greater spacing between the lines. The result greatly increases readability and general over-all appearance of the pages.

Readers of other progressive newspapers have placed a universal stamp of approval on the new type. We hope you'll find it to your liking. Perhaps you may find you can even set aside those spectacles.

Below is a story carried in the Thursday HERALD set in the old type. Beside it is the same story set in THE HERALD's new, easier-to-read type.

<p><i>The Old</i></p> <p>"Famous Firsts in Flowers" will be the theme of the 68th annual Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena New Year's Day, President John S. Davidson announced yesterday.</p> <p>Such themes as "First Edition," "First Date," "First Tooth," "First Reader," "First Movie," "First Birth," "First President," and scores of others may be adopted by the various communities and organizations which build floats for the Tournament of Roses.</p>	<p><i>The New</i></p> <p>"Famous Firsts in Flowers" will be the theme of the 68th annual Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena New Year's Day, President John S. Davidson announced yesterday.</p> <p>Such themes as "First Edition," "First Date," "First Tooth," "First Reader," "First Movie," "First Birth," "First President," and scores of others may be adopted by the various communities and organizations which build floats for the Tournament of Roses."</p>
---	--



STUDY TOOTH ILLS . . . Dr. Bernard Z. Rabinowitch (center), prominent California dentist, told members of the Torrance Dental Health Assn. here Thursday night that good nutrition could prevent a large percentage of children's tooth decay problems. Chatting with him are Millie McBee, executive secretary of the local association, and Atty. Donald Hitchcock, new president of the group.

Fire Again At Narbonne

Fire in a metal waste basket at Narbonne High School Friday was reported to sheriff's deputies by school authorities.

Officials said the fire was extinguished before any damage was done. It was another in a series of fires that have swept the school during the past year.

A \$25,000 fire gutted the administration building of the school in April. Authorities still are looking for the firebug who set that one.

Schmidt New Head Of Local DeMolay Group

James Schmidt was installed as master counselor of the Torrance chapter, Order of DeMolay, Saturday night in installation rites held at the Masonic Temple.

Members of the Gardena DeMolay chapter were the installing officials.

Larry Stamper was installed as the new senior counselor, while John Sherfy is the new junior counselor.

Other new officers include Thomas Quaggin, scribe; Dave Rhone, senior deacon; Claude Jackson, junior deacon; John Trenary, senior steward; Richard Donaldson, junior steward; Chauncey Rowland, marshal; Tony Ward, chaplain; Stephen Foster, almoner; Dal Derouin, standard bearer; and Phillip Scholl, orator.

Fire Damages Palos Verdes Golf Course

A brush fire swept through a gulley at Palos Verdes Golf Course Saturday afternoon and for a time threatened nearby homes before it was brought under control.

County and city fire units and police cars answered the call and with the help of residents and bystanders battled the flames to a standstill. Damage was limited to a brush section in a gulley just off the fourth fairway.

Rehwoidt Now Home

Walter Rehwoidt, of 1201 1/2 Prado, is recuperating from a recent operation. He now is at home and resting, his wife said last week.

Fall Kindergarten Roundup Opens Today at Madrona

The Madrona Avenue School PTA will sponsor a Spring Roundup at Madrona Avenue School today and tomorrow, May 28 and 29, from 9 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. A third roundup date will be held on June 8.

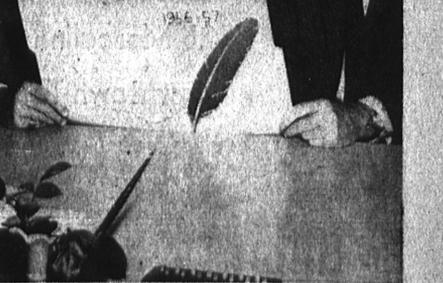
To be eligible for kindergarten next year a child must be five years of age by Dec. 2, 1956, or four years and nine months by Sept. 1, 1956.

At the roundup, each child will receive a physical examination. The pre-registration period will also give parents

and teachers an opportunity to talk over any phase of the kindergarten program. A birth certificate or other legal proof of age must be shown.

Chamber Head At Meet

L. O. Griffiths, president of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce, will attend the Western Regional Conference of the president's committee for traffic safety to be held at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco on Thursday and Friday.



CHEST LEADERS . . . Arthur O. Otsea (left), who will direct the Community Chest campaign in the Harbor Area this year, briefs other top leaders: Advanced Gifts Chairman Donald Armstrong, and Industry Chairman C. C. Morgan. Otsea named the two Torrance civic leaders to assist in the huge fund-raising task this fall.